

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. In a computer system that provides access to web resources to be processed by a web browser, a method of selectively overriding default client version properties of the web browser, comprising the acts of:

prior to issuing a request to a server for a web resource, selecting an override client version property set that is different from a default client version property set associated with the web browser, the client version property set having been selected so as to obtain a version of the web resource that is appropriate for the web browser; and

transmitting the request to the server for a web resource, the request including the override client version property set.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the act of selecting an override client version property set comprises the act of comparing an identifier associated with the web resource with identifiers included in a data structure that correlates the identifiers with override client version properties.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the data structure is stored at a proxy server and the act of comparing is conducted by the proxy server.

4. The method of claim 2 wherein the data structure is stored at a client device on which the web browser operates and the act of comparing is conducted by the client device.

5. The method of claim 2, wherein the data structure is stored at a check-url server included in the computer system and the act of comparing is conducted by the check-url server.

6. The method of claim 1, further comprising the act of requesting a subsequent web resource from the server using the default client version property set.

7. The method of claim 1, further comprising the act of obtaining the requested web resource, wherein the content of the obtained web resource is different from content of the requested web resource that would have been obtained if the default client version property set would have been included in the request.

8. In a computer system that provides access to web resources to be processed by a web browser, a method of selectively overriding a default client version property set of the web browser, comprising the acts of:

receiving from a server a web resource optionally including client-side script that enables the web resource to be modified;

selecting an override client version property set that is different from a default client version property set associated with the web browser, the client version property set having been selected so as to execute the client-side script to obtain a version of the web resource that is appropriate for the web browser; and

based on an override client version property set, executing the client-side script so as to obtain a version of the web resource that is different from a version that would have been obtained if the client-side script had been executed based on the default client version property set.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the override client version property set includes a navigator.userAgent property.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the override client version property set includes a navigator.appVersion property.

11. The method of claim 8 wherein the override client version property set includes a navigator.appName property.

12. The method of claim 8 wherein the act of selecting an override client version property set comprises the act of comparing an identifier associated with the web resource with identifiers included in a data structure that correlates the identifiers with override client version properties.

13. In a computer system that provides access to web resources to be processed by a web browser, a method of selectively overriding a default client version property set of the web browser, comprising the acts of:

receiving input that includes an address associated with a requested web resource;

determining whether the address associated with the requested web resource corresponds with an identifier included in the data structure that correlates identifiers of selected web resources with override client version properties;

if the address associated with the requested web resource corresponds with an identifier included in the data structure, obtaining the requested web resource using an override client version property set correlated by the data structure with the requested web resource; and

if the address associated with the requested web resource does not correspond with an identifier included in the data structure, obtaining the requested web resource using the default client version property set of the web browser.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the identifiers are uniform resource identifiers.

15. The method of claim 13 wherein the act of obtaining the requested web resource using the override version property set comprises the act of obtaining a version of the requested web resource that has been selected by a server from which the requested web resource was obtained.

16. The method of claim 13 wherein the act of obtaining the requested web resource using the override version property set comprises the acts of:

obtaining the requested web resource and a client-side script from a server; and
executing the client-side script so as to modify the requested web resource according to the override client version property set.

17. The method of claim 13 wherein the data structure is stored at a proxy server and the act of determining whether the address associated with the requested web resource corresponds with an identifier included in the data structure is conducted by the proxy server.

18. The method of claim 13 wherein the data structure is stored at a client device on which the web browser operates and the act of determining whether the address associated with the requested web resource corresponds with an identifier included in the data structure is conducted by the client device.

19. The method of claim 13 wherein the data structure is stored at a check-url server included in the computer system and the act of determining whether the address associated with the requested web resource corresponds with an identifier included in the data structure is conducted by the check-url server.

20. The method of claim 13 wherein the web resource is obtained from a web server, the method further comprising the act of requesting a subsequent web resource from the web server using the default client version property set.

21. The method of claim 13 wherein the act of obtaining the requested web resource using the override version property set is conducted such that content of the obtained web resource is different from content of the requested web resource that would have been obtained if the default client version property set would have been used.

22. The method of claim 13 wherein the act of obtaining the requested web resource using the override version property set is conducted and, if the default client version property set were instead to have been used, a version of the web resources having content that is not operational with the web browser would have been obtained.

23. The method of claim 13 wherein the act of obtaining the requested web resource using the override version property set is conducted and, if the default client version property set were instead to have been used, a web server from which the web resources were requested would have refused to provide the requested web resource.

24. A computer system that provides access to web resources comprising;
- a client device;
- a first web browser operating on the client device, wherein the first web browser comprises a default client version property set associated with the first web browser;
- and
- a computer-readable medium having stored thereon an index that includes:
- an identifier associated with a web resource; and
- a corresponding override client version property set that is to be substituted for the default client version property set when the first web browser requests the web resource from a web server.

25. The computer system of claim 24 wherein the override client version property set corresponds to a second web browser different from the first web browser, the override client version property set being selected to cause the web server to transmit to the client device a version of the requested web resource that has been optimized to be processed by the second web browser.

26. The computer system of claim 24 further comprising a proxy server that communicates with the client device.

27. The computer system of claim 24 wherein the computer-readable medium on which the index is stored is at proxy server.

28. The computer system of claim 24 wherein the computer-readable medium on which the index is stored is at the client device.

29. The computer system of claim 24 further comprising a check-url server that communicates with the client device and which has access to the index stored on the computer-readable medium.

30. The computer system of claim 24 wherein the override client version property set causes the web server to respond to a request for the web resource as if the first web browser were the second web browser.

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31. A method for generating an index for replacing default client version properties associated with web browsers with override client version properties when requests for web resources are made, the method comprising the acts of:

using a web browser operating on a client device to request a first version of a web resource from a web server using a default client version property set associated with the client device;

using the web browser to request a version of the web resource from the web server using each of one or more other client version properties; and

if:

i) the version of the web resource requested using the default client version property set is not obtained or;

ii) the version of the web resource requested using a particular other client version property set of the one or more other client version properties is more operational than the version of the web resource requested using the default property, then:

designating said particular other client version property set as an override client version property set that is to be used when the web browser again requests the web resource from the web server.

32. The method of claim 31 further comprising the act of adding an identifier of the web resource and the corresponding override client version property set to the index.

33. The method of claim 32 further comprising storing the index at a proxy server through which client devices operating the web browser request web resources.

34. The method of claim 31 further comprising the act of, for each request using either the default client version property set or the one or more other client version properties, and if the requested version of the web resource is obtained, determining whether the version of the web resource is operational.

35. The method of claim 31 wherein the acts of using a web browser operating on a client device to request a first version of a web resource and using the web browser to request a version of the web resource from the web server using each of one or more other client version properties are conducted by an administrator of a proxy server in response to an indication by a user of a client device operating through the proxy server that the web resource is not fully functional using the web browser.